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Project Management
January 29, 2023

Module One Assignment

Short Answers:

1. What are some of the principal reasons why project management has become such a popular business tool in recent years?
As globalization continues to grow companies are forced to also match that pace. So companies need to find ways to rate their success on more scales then simply their financial statements and accounting information. Companies started evaluating their grow through new lenses and outlets such as connection, customers, opportunity, and more. So to grow more efficiently they needed to think outside the box of usual processes; which landed them on projects.

2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using project management?
There are consistently pros and cons to the use of project management. The pros being that you get to better your problem solving skills and creativity. You also get to grow in thinking outside the box and interacting with different skilled people. In general this may be a more satisfying and fulfilling way to achieve goals. Yet in the same breath, the cons consist of uncertainty, anxiety in deadlines and budgeting. There may also be issues in working with so many different departments and people. The management must succeed nearly perfectly for the project to succeed.

3. Describe the basic elements of a project lifestyle.
There are about four different elements to a project lifestyle. Which consists of conceptualization, planning, execution, and termination. Conceptualization is the first phase in which the goals and objectives are determined. It is the brainstorming of the goal and the possibility of achieving it. Then planning comes to play which creates the steps to successful achieve the goals dreamed of. It is very process oriented with drafting, researching, scheduling, and editing. Execution is acting upon the plans laid down. Termination is after the project is completed as sent to the customers to which the review of the project comes from.

4. Explain the concept of a project management maturity model. What purpose does it serve?
Often times a poor project is not at fault of a poor goal or idea, yet simply the execution of the project. So the maturity model helps companies recognize where they fell through the cracks of the planning and executing stages of their project. This model can be used during the termination

stage to help change their mistakes for the future. It is shaped as a spider web with ranges from 0-3 in 8 different categories to help specify the skills that need maturity. Often times these issues will help pinpoint their departments that need improvement.

5. How can project management be used to achieve strategic objectives?
The planning phase of a project requires intentional brainpower to achieve the results in the most efficient and successful manner possible. So that alone is a strategic objective. Along with the planning phase, the original conceptualization of the project is intended to reach a goal to strategically better the company. So again the events that take place in project management all include strategy. The maturity model also evaluates the level of strategy used in the process and execution of the project.

6. Briefly compare functional, project, and matrix organizations.
Functional organizations are companies structure their departments by similar skillsets. So each group all work in the same jobs. Where project organizations are also all grouped off in teams yet everyone is skilled in different ways. Matrix organizations are a mix in between both styles yet include a hierarchy. It is a way to balance the use of involving a team that is skilled in different ways. Yet similar skilled people are still interacting closely with each other.

7. How do organizational cultures form?
The culture of an organization is determined greatly by the qualities and environment it decides to adapt to. So some key concepts are technology, geographical location, reward systems, rules/procedures, key members, and critical incidents. All of these aspects cultivate a personality for the company. Their environment and location shape who they are trying to interact or sell to. Where the rules and reward systems are based off of the morals they want to elevate. Every one of the characteristics can be explained in how it impacts the culture.

Long Answers:

"Most Influential Projects" Article Review:

  Each project mentioned in this article proves how project management can be so influential to change the way we live and change society. This article highlights unique project management skills based on climate change and wildlife conservation. Such as creating coastal cities in forms of either floating or non-flooding cities. Another project focuses on the mountain lions in Southern California as a way to pivot away from destruction of wildlife as we industrialize. There are many more better-life focused projects being achieved world wide. For non-profits to succeed through their project management is an extremely critical element to understanding the importance of project management. These organizations have to use strategic

thinking in order to succeed without surrounding their ultimate goal around financial gain. Yet these organizations take it a step further to show the importance of project management outside of companies alone and focus the importance on the health of our planet to better life for everyone on it.

https://community.pmi.org/blog-post/73898/most-influential-projects---regional-leaders--top-picks

"Cultivating the Next Generation of Project Learners" Article Review:

This article highlights the initiative to grow young adults and teens to understand the values and benefits of project management. It is a goal oriented organization that teaches how project management can be used in more outlets besides your occupation. Through teams, schoolwork, and simple problem solving, PMIEF is teaching the success of project management in unique ways. They are also involving the highest end mechanics and technology of Formula 1 race cares to teach these skills. So for a company to have a goal of improving the minds of new generations, then chooses a creative plan to succeed in this, which also involves high end technology, is proof of the success in project management. This is ultimately supporting the concept of that corporations bust vitalize the use of project management to help their growth. Project management goes beyond simply reaching numbers. It teaches maturity and morals in life as a whole. It can help raise a generation to be socially conscious and knowledgeable. These are goals reached that could never have been achieved if it weren't for project management. Traditional work may not be as risky but it will not beagle to change a generation or change the world we live in nearly as successfully.

https://community.pmi.org/blog-post/73151/cultivating-the-next-generation-of-project-leaders

"Industry 4.0 Revolution" Article Review:

This article is a reinforcement of how project management is needed to survive in this industrial climate. With constant production and competition growing at large pace, traditional strategies will not hold up. With the economy changing so consistently and with globalization causing a lot of the shift, it is impossible not to change the way organizations grow beyond others. This article tackles the industry 4.0 revolution concept. It discusses how we as humans are supposed to adapt differently and quicker than technology. So that we are controlling the narrative of our industry despite the constant growth of technology. This simply proves the need for project management. Because artificial intelligence and technology will be able to work traditional work styles. With little brain power or problem solving needed, technology will be able to adapt well to these low standard skills. Yet project management is so dependent on the

creativity and skills of a human mind that no technology can replicate. Humans are able to create and pivot when technology cannot. So this article explains how in the midst of technological improvement, project management is a vital component in corporate success.

https://community.pmi.org/blog-post/71776/the-industry-4-0-revolution-is-here--are-you-prepared-